



GRANT COUNTY

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OFFICE OF

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

POST OFFICE BOX 37

EPHRATA, WASHINGTON 98823

(509) 754-2011

My name is Deborah Moore. I live near Moses Lake, Washington, and I'm both a farmer and a Grant County Commissioner. There are approximately 70,000 residents in Grant County that I represent. Today I want to go on record opposing breaching of the dams on the Snake River. I also want you to know that not one of my constituents that I have spoken with has been in favor of removing the dams.

I am in favor of the All-H papers intent to honestly look at improving habitat, hydropower, hatchery operation and harvest, to aid in salmon recovery. However, there needs to be a comprehensive plan which is based on the best available science, not a risky scheme.

On a clear day I can look out the window of our family's farmhouse and see Mt. Rainier approximately 180 miles away. We have the cleanest air and water in the country in the Columbia Basin. The dams on the Snake and Columbia rivers provide the clean and renewable green electricity and efficient transportation that allows us to enjoy our air and water.

If dams on the Snake River are removed we will need alternative sources for electricity and transportation which will have a damaging effect on the environment. It is estimated that more than 700,000 trucks and 120,000 more rail cars will be needed to transport our products to markets. Our clean source of energy will need to be replaced by burning toxic coal, oil, gas or diesel, because wind or solar power won't even begin to make up for the loss of electricity from the dams. Emissions from fossil fuel plants spew thousands of tons of carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxide into the air. These have been identified as the main sources of acid rain and greenhouse gases.

The approximately \$1 billion needed to remove the four Snake River dams would be better spent addressing predation by birds and marine mammals and studying the impact of climate and conditions in the estuary and ocean, especially, since the Corps' study does not contain any verifiable biological or scientific data which can prove that the removal of the dams will restore salmon runs.

TIM SNEAD
DISTRICT 1
10999 STRATFORD RD.
MOSES LAKE, WA 98837
PHONE 755-9548

DEBORAH MOORE
DISTRICT 3
1805 DODSON RD. N
MOSES LAKE, WA 98837
PHONE 787-3169

LEROEY ALLISON
DISTRICT 2
20268 RD. 1 SE
WARDEN, WA 98857
PHONE 349-2513

Removal of the Snake River dams will result in jobs that will be lost in an area that is already economically depressed. The people I represent don't need another blow to their way of life simply because the federal government is looking for a quick fix to the salmon problem. Saving the salmon can be accomplished without sacrificing our economic future or way of life if decision makers will use common sense and support a comprehensive recovery plan that has a clear vision, achievable goals and accountability.